



MSHDA REVIEW

Volume 24, No. 4

*Your Affordable Housing Partner
Celebrating Its 35th Year*

December/January 2002

2001 A GOOD YEAR FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING PRODUCTION – 35 Years and Building

The year of MSHDA's 35th anniversary held a great deal of excitement, surprise, and tragedy, not only for the Authority, but for Americans throughout the state and nation. Through it all, however, we learned that by pulling together and combining our resources, the results are a stronger and more unified state and nation. The Authority also found that to be true throughout the affordable housing industry. Despite terrorism threats and an ensuing economic crisis, MSHDA managed to finance nearly 5,000 new and rehabilitated housing units for low- to moderate-income Michigan residents. More than 1,200 attendees at the Michigan Conference on Affordable Housing went back to their local communities better prepared to help house our seniors, families, people with disabilities, and those at risk of homelessness. And through the dedicated efforts and expertise of staff, MSHDA's new home at 735 East

Michigan Avenue in Lansing is enabling the Authority to enhance its housing services to those who need it most.



FROM
OLD



TO
NEW

A
quarterly
publication of the

MSHDA

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Michigan State Housing

Development Authority



JAMES L. LOGUE III

Once again, as one year ends and another begins, I would like to take the opportunity to thank our many partners that made 2001 such a successful year for MSHDA and the affordable housing industry. Despite the tragedy that threatened America, and the flagging economy that

THANK YOU MSHDA PARTNERS!

occurred as a result, I believe we provided some much-needed assistance at a critical time.

A special thanks is in order to Governor Engler for his endorsement of federal housing legislation, U. S. Rep. Dave Camp for his leadership, and the 100 percent cosponsorship support from Michigan's entire congressional delegation.

Efforts from 27 partners working together with MSHDA produced one of the largest conferences of its kind in the country in 2001: the Michigan Conference on Affordable Housing.

Dedication from MSHDA staff and the commitment of nonprofits, local governments, developers, financial institutions, and others throughout the affordable housing industry made it possible for MSHDA to finance 4,765 new and rehabilitated housing units. The Authority also distributed over \$44.3 million in grants to local governments and nonprofit organizations. The awarding of Low Income Housing Tax Credits helped to create 6,322 units of affordable rental housing in 106 developments statewide.

Our homeownership

counseling network has helped hundreds of low-income families become homeowners through the Michigan Affordable Housing Fund.

Working hand-in-hand with the Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness resulted in one of the most successful awareness-raising campaigns ever during Homeless Awareness Week 2001 in November.

Last year we celebrated our 35th anniversary, and in the coming years, MSHDA will make every effort to continue as "Your Affordable Housing Partner."



MSHDA's annual report for the 2000-2001 fiscal year is available. To obtain a copy, please contact the Communications Office at (517) 335-2006.

SOUP'S ON – CHARITIES BENEFIT



MSHDA employees started a new tradition in 2001 by planning and serving a staff luncheon as a fund raiser for various charities. The first "soup and bread" kitchen meal ladled up a total of \$417 that was distributed to the Lansing Rescue Mission, Salvation Army, and Volunteers of America. Great Harvest donated the bread and rolls and staff donated the soups, paper products, beverages, and a great deal of hard work. The soup luncheons will occur quarterly with different floors and divisions doing the honors. Staff gets a nice hot lunch by donating to the effort, and the beneficiaries are those most in need.



Putting People In MSHDA Homes

HEARTWARMING STORIES OF HOW **MSHDA** HOMEOWNERSHIP AND RENTAL PROGRAMS HELP PUT INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES INTO HOMES THAT FIT THEIR NEEDS

Finally having a safe place for his compact disk and stuffed animal collections is very significant to Sean Dingman of Grand Rapids. Living with a hearing disability and on a limited SSI income, affordable housing for Sean was nearly an impossibility. In fact, he was faced with homelessness after being victimized by a roommate who stole his money and belongings. Now Sean is a resident of Genesis East, a new apartment community

specifically for people like Sean with disabilities in need of a supportive housing environment. One of only a few in the state, the Genesis East project combines an accessible, safe and affordable environment right along with coordination of other support services like case management and counseling.

Sean Dingman doesn't worry about his safety anymore. Now he figures out his budget and considers ways to afford his next CD.



FEDERAL LEGISLATION WOULD PROVIDE GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR THOUSANDS TO OWN HOMES

Thanks to the support of Michigan's congressional delegation, Congress has a golden opportunity to create new housing opportunities for tens of thousands of low- and moderate-income families throughout the nation and in Michigan. Without creating any new program or asking for any appropriation of federal money, the legislation would simply eliminate obsolete provisions in the two principal federal programs that finance the production of affordable housing – Mortgage Revenue Bonds (MRBs) and the Housing Credit.

These programs are popular because they are state-administered, federal tax incentives to encourage private investment in first-time homebuyer mortgages for low- and moderate-income

privately developed and owned apartments for low-income renters. Many people qualified to receive housing help, however, can't get it because a few obsolete program provisions enacted before 1989 prevent it. But with the support of our legislators in Washington, thousands of low-income Michigan residents could have access to affordable housing if the legislation is enacted.

Senators

Carl Levin

Debbie Stabenow

Representatives

James Barcia

David Bonior

Dave Camp

John Conyers

John Dingell

Vernon Ehlers

Peter Hoekstra

Dale Kildee

Sander Levin

Carolyn Kilpatrick

Joe Knollenberg

Lynn Rivers

Mike Rogers

Nick Smith

Bart Stupak

Fred Upton



**MICHIGAN'S
CONGRESSIONAL
DELEGATION
GIVES 100
PERCENT
SUPPORT**



MSHDA WINS NATIONAL AWARD

In October, MSHDA was recognized with the prestigious National Council of State Housing Agencies' 2001 Annual Award for Program Excellence. The award, presented during NCSHA's annual conference in Boston, was for MSHDA's brochure CRA Community Reinvestment Game. The brochure is targeted to lenders and communicates details relating to the many programs within MSHDA that could help the lender fulfill Community Reinvestment Act responsibilities. The Community Reinvestment Game brochure was designed by Donovan & Company of Lansing.

2001 ANNUAL AWARD
FOR
PROGRAM EXCELLENCE
Communications
Promotional Materials and Newsletters
Michigan State Housing
Development Authority



MICHIGAN CONFERENCE ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING

STATEWIDE CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN JUNE

The Michigan Conference on Affordable Housing Planning Committee invites you to attend the annual statewide Conference on Affordable Housing June 10 - 12 at the Lansing Center in Lansing. Last year, more than 1,200 attendees participated in the conference that included nonprofit and for-profit developers; homeless care providers; private lenders; local, state, and federal governmental representatives; faith-based organizations involved in affordable housing issues; technical assistance consultants; and many other concerned individuals and groups.

Plan to attend an invaluable forum for networking and building collaborative relationships among organizations that will lead to affordable housing opportunities while preserving Michigan's low-income housing stock. The Conference's Informative tracks include Building Communities, Creating and Preserving Rental Housing, Ending Homelessness, Expanding Homeownership Opportunities, and Strengthening Organizational Capacity. Conference registration brochures will be mailed in April. To be added to the mailing list, e-mail grambaua@michigan.gov. Or visit the Web Site at www.housingconference.org

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Equal Housing Lender



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